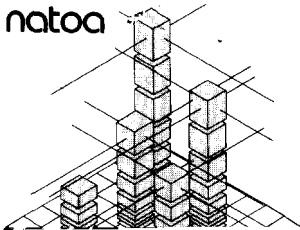


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**The National Association of
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and Advisors**

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Chairman Quello
Commissioner Duggan
Commissioner Barrett
July 9, 1993
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of their rates deemed unreasonable under the Commission's regulations from the date of implementation of a rate decision by the Commission or a franchising authority back to June 21, 1993 or one year, whichever period is shorter. Under the Order, cable operators' refund liability now only extends from the date of implementation of a rate decision back to October 1, 1993 or one year, whichever is shorter. Thus, cable subscribers currently paying unreasonable rates will not be entitled to a refund of the amount they overpaid — 1 during the period between June 21 and October 1.

We urge the Commission to subject cable operators to appropriate refund liability for unreasonable rates paid prior to the October 1 effective date. Cable operators have been on notice since the Commission adopted its rate regulations on April 1, 1993 that they may have to reduce their rates, and have had since the Commission released its regulations and forms on May 3, 1993 to establish reasonable rates. The cable rate freeze establishes a ceiling and does not prohibit a cable operator from reducing a rate to a rate that would be reasonable. Moreover, by the time the Commission released the Order, cable operators should have been in the process of implementing such reasonable rates by June 21, the original effective date of the Commission's rules, in order to limit any refund liability after such date. Hence, cable operators should have been expected to comply with the Commission's rate rules by June 21 -- but for the June 11 Order. The Commission found no reason why cable operators, as opposed to the Commission, could not comply with the June 21 date since it denied several stay petitions by cable operators to delay the effective date.)

We believe that the Commission should reestablish June 21 as the date back to which a cable operator's refund liability may extend.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns. We hope that you will act to protect cable subscribers from the unreasonable rates they currently may be paying.

Sincerely,

David Olson

David Olson
President
NATO